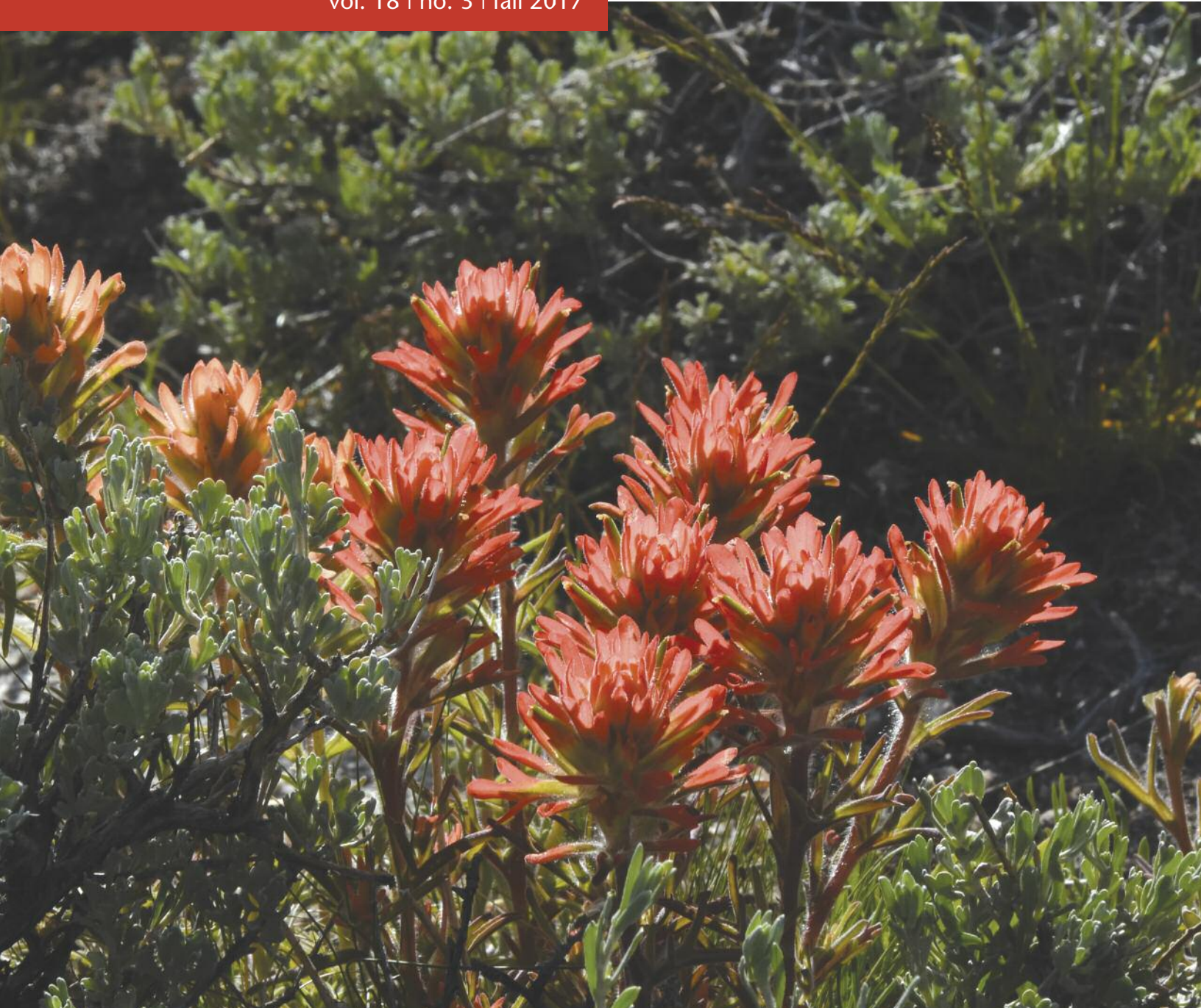


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It is a beautiful, clear, frosty morning in Aberdeen, Idaho. As I look out the window of my office, the last of the leaves are falling to the ground. The summer work season is over. It was a long, difficult, strenuous season in my world—made worse by significant health issues. But I made it through; the seedlings have been successfully established, the weeds have been removed from the plots, the seed has been collected, and the plants groomed in preparation for a new season. Now it's time to plan the office phase; time to assess progress, write reports, summarize data, and write a few papers. I completed a nice study two years ago designed to assess the variability of Idaho fescue accessions with regard to turfgrass quality traits. I should get the results on paper and archived as a journal article. The manuscript should make a nice addition to the *Native Plants Journal*. I am very pleased to have NPJ as a publication outlet. This journal is a great match to the subject matter of my work. When I publish in NPJ, I know the information is being distributed to an appropriate and appreciative audience. I hope you, too, have had a successful summer growing season. I hope you were able to complete work that is worthy of being shared. The editors and staff at the *Native Plants Journal* would love to host your communications and help you document your progress. May this be a productive winter. Let us know if we can help you share your story.



Stephen Love
Editor-in-Chief

On the cover: The hemi-parasitic native plant, desert Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja chromosa* A. Nelson [Scrophulariaceae]), in close proximity to low sagebrush (*Artemisia arbuscula* Nutt. ssp. *arbuscula* [Asteraceae]), a potential host plant, as found in the Kern Mountains of eastern Nevada. Photo by Larry Rupp

Have a great idea for an article but don't have time or need help writing? Please e-mail. We can help.

Two types of manuscripts are welcome:

General technical articles are not research per se (lack strict experimental design and statistical analysis), but have important information for growers and planters of North American native plants. Articles could include new planting techniques, useful equipment, cultural techniques, habitat restoration, restoration techniques, production trends, technical information, descriptions of new species or cultivars entering nursery production, and so on. *Propagation protocols* are short, concise general articles detailing the specific methods used to propagate a particular plant. *Germplasm releases* are short articles that follow a standard format (see past issues) and announce the release of new plant materials for conservation use.

Refereed research articles (and scientific reviews or commentary) must have sound application of scientific method, appropriate statistical analysis, and state how the research is important to growers and planters of North American native plants. Accepted papers will be published with a "Refereed Research Article" designation.

All submitted manuscripts will be peer-reviewed by 2 referees to ensure the objective of *Native Plants Journal* is met.

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Include a cover letter indicating what type of manuscript is being submitted (refereed or general). Refrain from special formatting. Use of active voice is encouraged. All text except tables and figure captions should be double-spaced. The first page should have title and author information (include full names of authors, their professional titles and affiliations, mailing and electronic addresses, and specify corresponding author to whom all pre-publishing correspondence should be sent).

The second page should contain the title, abstract, and key words. Abstracts should be double-spaced and brief and emphasize results, usefulness, and practicality to growers and planters of North American (Canada, Mexico, and US) native plants. Authors are strongly encouraged to make the first sentence of their abstract describe the most important finding of their work. Include 3 to 7 key words not in the title. Use the PLANTS database as the source for nomenclature (see below). Print an abbreviated title and page number in the upper right corner of this and all subsequent pages. Use line numbering. Construct tables using the table feature of word processing programs.

Follow the second page with the "Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, References," or some other logical system as headings, followed by figure captions

and tables. For matters of style, we generally follow *Scientific Style and Format, The Council of Biology Editors Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers*, 6th edition (ISBN 0-521-47154-0).

Use metric (SI) units with US units in parentheses and abbreviate all units, except those without numerical value (for example, "we measured parts per million and found 250 ppm nitrogen"). Use numerals for any countable amount (for example, 3 replicates, 2 populations).

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Internet source: [USDA NRCS] USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. 2011. The PLANTS database. URL: <http://plants.usda.gov> (accessed 20 Jan 2011). Greensboro (NC): National Plant Data Team.

Government article: Barnett JP, Brissette JC. 1986. Producing southern pine seedlings in containers. New Orleans (LA): USDA Forest Service, Southern Forest Experiment Station. General Technical Report SO-59. 71 p.

Thesis or dissertation: Wang Z. 1990. Effects of cupric carbonate on container-grown seedlings of ponderosa pine during greenhouse production [MSc thesis]. Moscow (ID): University of Idaho. 67 p.

Personal communication: Hoss GA. 2002. Personal communication. Licking (MO): Missouri Department of Conservation, George O White State Forest Nursery. Nursery Superintendent.

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Photo credits opposite page: (top) Bog cranberry (*Vaccinium vitis-idaea* L. [Ericaceae]) growing in a natural environment, photo by Amanda L Schoonmaker; (middle) desert Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja chromosa* A. Nelson [Scrophulariaceae]) in a wild area of eastern Nevada, photo by Larry Rupp; (bottom) native prairie plants work well together to provide a range of heights and colors in the garden, photo by Kelly Cartwright.